

Scott Kincaid

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"Mr Chairman and members of the Senate Financial Institutions & Insurance committee--

Thank you for the opportunity to write in support of SB 135 which would add Corrections staff to the KP&F retirement plan."

I have worked in Corrections for 14 years now. I have seen many officers come and go through the years. I have talked with many of my coworkers who have stayed and went in that time frame. Many officers use this place as a steppingstone for going out to other agencies like police and fire departments. This will not change. But many love the job but leave because of family goals of a better retirement and benefits the police department offer. I think that offering a KP&F retirement in this agency will allow for many to remain in this career option rather than moving on. Even if they move on, if the retirement systems are the same as those that do branch out of corrections, they would be able to make a lateral transfer and be able to advance their retirement systems rather than starting from scratch. The legislature made it so that corrections are considered law enforcement for things like conceal to carry laws because of our training and career choice. I think it would be in everyone's best interest if this consideration gets reflected in our retirement program as well. In corrections we must put our lives on the line like police officers on the street and are just as essential for the needs and safety of society. This is seen in our ability to keep them secure in the facility, in their rehabilitation and their eventual release back to society hopefully in a more pro-social mentality and actions.

In conclusion, I urge you to work SB 135 and pass it favorably out of committee. Thank you for, at a minimum, having a hearing on this subject.

Sincerely,

Scott Kincaid